

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-03 SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SAM-01

INR-05 PRS-01 CIAE-00 L-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 /037 W

----- 067472

O R 090755Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0012

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 5045

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, AO

SUBJECT: ANGOLAN RECOGNITION

REF: STATE 265503 (NOTAL)

1. POLICY: TANGOV PUBLIC AND PRIVATE POSITION IS THAT MPLA ONLY AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATIVE ANGOLAN PEOPLE AND THAT FNLA AND UNITA ARE LACKEYS WESTERN IMPERIALISM USING SOUTH AFRICAN MERCENARIES AND SUPPLIED BY US THROUGH ZAIRE. OCCASIONAL TANGOV GESTURE IN DIRECTION "GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION" IN ANGOLA NOTES THAT THIS SHOULD BE ONLY UNTIL INDEPENDENCE ATTAINED WHEN MPLA, WHICH HAS TOTAL TANGOV SUPPORT, SHOULD RULE. TANGOV POLICY ON ANGOLA IS TO REPLICATE MOZAMBIQUE TURNOVER OF AUTHORITY AND IS HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE ON THIS ISSUE.

2. INFORMATION: THOUGH TANGOV AND MEDIA CREDIT MPLA CLAIMS TO CONTROL MOST OF ANGOLA, TANGOV ALREADY FULLY AWARE OF EVIDENCE TO CONTRARY. FOR EXAMPLE, UNITA REPRESENTATIVE IN DAR ES SALAAM ISSUES DAILY BULLETINS SUMMARIZING UNITA CLAIMS TO CONTROL MOST ANGOLAN
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DISTRICTS. EMBASSY HAS REPEATEDLY AT MANY LEVELS STRESSED TO TANGOV

POINTS CONTAINED PARA 7 REFTEL. AN EMBASSY EFFORT AT THIS LATE DATE TO COUNTER MPLA VERSION OF FACTS WOULD BE TAKEN BY TANGOV AS LAST-MINUTE DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO SALVAGE SOMETHING FOR USG'S "CLIENTS" IN ANGOLAN CIVIL WAR.

3. COMMENT: TANGOV WILL BE AMONG THE FIRST TO RECOGNIZE MPLA AS GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA. IF OTHER MOVEMENTS SUBSEQUENTLY ASSUME EFFECTIVE CONTROL OVER ANGOLA, TANGOV MAY MODIFY ITS POSITION, AS IT DID WITH COMORO ISLANDS WHEN TANGOV-FAVORED GOVERNMENT WAS OVERTHROWN SHORTLY AFTER UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE. ANY APPROACH FROM

USG ON THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE CONSIDERED "PRESSURE" FROM LEADER OF "WESTERN IMPERIALIST" CAMP AND THEREFORE POTENTIAL OBSTACLE IN PATH OF ANY POSSIBLE SHIFT.

4. CONCLUSION: AS DEPARTMENT AWARE THIS EMBASSY IS NOT SHY ABOUT PRESENTING VIEWS TO TANGOV AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS WHICH ARE MET BY PREDICTABLE TOTAL NEGATIVE RESPONSES. HOWEVER, IN THIS INSTANCE WE HAVE RELUCTANTLY CONCLUDED THAT WE MUST PASS UP THIS OPPORTUNITY BASED ON OUR JUDGEMENT THAT ITS ONLY EFFECT ON TANGOV WOULD BE PRECISELY OPPOSITE TO THAT WHICH WE SEEK.

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